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Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 096126

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ORIGIN AF-02

INFO OCT-01 IO 02 ISO-00 /005 R

66618
DRAFTED BY AF/S:SFMCDONALD:JK
APPROVED BY AF/S:WPO'NEILL
---------- 119201
R 102031Z MAY 74
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION USUN NY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 096126

FOLLOWING STATE 096126 SENT ACTION LUSAKA LOGOS DAR ES SALAAM KINSHASA LOURENCO MARQUES LONDON LISBON LUANDA NAIROBI ADDIS ABABA ROME PRETORIA CONAKRY DAKAR MAY 9TH.

QUOTE:

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 096126

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS:PINT, PINS, PO
SUBJECT: ZAMBIAN INITIATIVE FOR ACTIVE U.S. ROLE IN PORTUGUESE/LIBERATION GROUP DIALOGUE
REFERENCE: LUSAKA 827 (NOTAL), LUSAKA 842 (NOTAL), LUSAKA 871 (NOTAL)

1. FERDINAND MWANZA, FIRST SECRETARY ZAMBIAN EMBASSY, APPARENTLY ON INSTRUCTION, REQUESTED MEETING WITH DEPARTMENT OFFICERS ON MAY 8. HIS PRESENTATION WAS VERY SIMILAR TO THOSE CITED IN REFTELS. HE STATED THAT THIS WAS NOT TIME FOR UNTHINKING RHETORIC BUT RATHER TIME TO BE PATIENT AND TAKE ADVANTAGE OF OPPORTUNITY PRESENTED TO SOLVE PROBLEM OF PORTUGUESE AFRICA. HE THEN WENT INTO LENGTHY EXPLANATION OF SUITABILITY OF U.S. TO PLAY ROLE OF MEDIATOR IN BRINGING LIBERATION GROUPS AND PORTUGUESE TOGETHER. HE SAID IF U.S. COULD SPEAK WITH PORTUGUESE FRIENDS ON THIS MATTER, ZAMBIANS COULD SPEAK WITH LIBERATION MOVEMENTS. NOT ONLY IS
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U.S. IN UNIQUE POSITION TO PLAY THIS ROLE, HE SAID, BUT IT

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WOULD ALSO FURTHER ITS OWN INTERESTS BY SO DOING. NOT ONLY WOULD IT STRENGTHEN U.S. FRIENDSHIPS IN AFRICA BUT IT WOULD PRECLUDE INTERVENTION BY COMMUNIST NATIONS IN SUCH A ROLE.

2. MWANZA ALSO BROUGHT UP SUBJECT OF U.S. INVESTMENT IN PORTUGUESE AFRICA. BRIEFLY, HIS POINT WAS THAT FOREIGN INVESTORS WHO REMAINED APOLITICAL NEED NOT WORRY THAT FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS MIGHT HARM THEIR INVESTMENTS. COMMENT:

THIS STATEMENT MUST BE TAKEN WITH RESERVE FOR OBVIOUS REASONS. HOWEVER, IT IS SIGNIFICANT IN THAT SHARFUDINE KHAN, FRELIMO REP IN NEW YORK, TOLD DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS BASICALLY SAME THING ON MAY 7.

3. DEPARTMENT WILL REPLY TO QUESTIONS RAISED BY CHONA IN LUSAKA 827 ASAP. RUSH UNQUOTE
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